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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/701,732	02/09/2001	Peter Kotay Nagy	32340WC004	8475

7590 03/28/2002

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EXAMINER

BERNHARDT, EMILY B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1624	

DATE MAILED: 03/28/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/701,732	Applicant(s) VAC et al.
	Examiner Emily Bernhardt	Art Unit 1624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1/24/02

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) 2-8 and 11-16 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1, 9, 10, 17, and 18 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) _____

17) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 5 20) Other: _____

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Applicant's election without traverse of I in Paper No. 8 is acknowledged.

Note that claims 1, 9 and 10 will only be examined with respect to the elected invention.

This application does not contain an abstract of the disclosure as required by 37 CFR 1.72(b). An abstract on a separate sheet is required.

Claims 10,17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

1. "Preferably" in claim 10 renders the claim indefinite since its not clear what is being claimed- subject matter before or after the term.
2. The structural makeup of formula II is not set forth in claim 17 which is an independent claim drawn to compounds.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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Claims 1, 9, 10, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zara. (GB'526). The reference provided by applicants discloses more than the process identified in the specification (p.2-3). It also discloses the same process being claimed herein and employing the same reaction conditions for making instant product among other pyridazinones. See route c) on p.7 as well as p.10-11 in the GB document which shows preferred reaction parameters employing route c) which includes the same type of solvents and molar ratio of amine reactant embraced in claims 9 and 10. Also the same reactant as claimed herein is taught. See formula (V). While example 41 which employs this route does not anticipate the instant scope since reactant (and thus corresponding product) is methylated at the 2-position of the pyridazinone ring and is unsubstituted on the phenyl ring, said route is taught as generally applicable to making all of the products in formula (I) which includes hydrogen at the 2-position and 3,4 dimethoxy on phenyl ring. Thus it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to employ instant process for making final product by employing the reactants (II) and (VI) in view of the teachings outlined above.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Emily Bernhardt at telephone number (703) 308-4714.

A facsimile center has been established for Group 1600. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:45 AM to 4:45 PM. The telecopier numbers for accessing the facsimile machine are (703) 308-4556 or (703) 305-3592.

E Bernhardt
EMILY BERNHARDT

PRIMARY EXAMINER

GROUP 1600